

Appln. No. 10/019,770
Amendment dated August 31, 2006
Reply to Notice of Allowance of July 24, 2006

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application:

Listing of Claims:

Claims 1-3 (canceled)

Claim 4 (previously presented): A device according to claim 3, wherein the drain channel (30) has a generally horizontal extent and is connected to an outlet (32).

Claim 5 (previously presented): A device according to claim 3 wherein said drain channel is upwardly open.

Claim 6 (currently amended): A reverse vending machine device for disposing of liquid remnants removed from containers before the containers are inserted a reverse vending machine, said device comprising: a front cover (14) for the reverse vending machine, said ~~front~~ front cover having a ~~front~~ front surface, a rear surface, and a container feed opening (22) extending through said front cover and accessible from outside the reverse vending machine, said container feed opening for receiving containers for insertion into the reverse vending machine through said container feed opening and an opening positioned within an internal container handling apparatus (18) of the reverse vending machine that corresponds to the container feed opening of said front cover, said front cover being formed to be secured to the reverse vending machine independently of internal container handling apparatus of the reverse vending machine and such that the reverse vending machine is operable with the cover removed, said container feed opening in said front cover being without a fixed connection to paperwork within the reverse bending machine, said front cover having a drain opening (26) adjacent said container feed opening, said drain opening being formed as an upwardly open bowl passing through said front cover and extending from the front surface of said front cover for receiving liquid remnants from containers prior to insertion of the containers into the container feed opening, said bowl having a discharge opening (28)

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positioned behind the rear surface of the front cover for discharging liquid remnants received in the bowl in a downward direction; and a drain channel (30) separate and spaced from said bowl, said drain channel being aligned with said discharge opening of said bowl for receiving liquid remnants discharged from said discharge opening and draining same to an outlet (32).